A Beautiful Part of Faith

By Mansoor Ali Shah
لَا إِلٰهَ إِلَّا اللّٰهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللّٰهِ

Mansoor: Baba, what does "Haya" mean? My friend said it today, but I didn't understand.

Baba: That's a wonderful question, Mansoor! Haya means modesty, shyness, and having a sense of respect for oneself and others. It is a special quality that makes us good Muslims.

Mansoor: Oh! Is it like when I feel shy to talk in front of many people?

Baba: That is one kind of Haya, but there is more to it. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ once saw a man telling his brother not to be too shy. Do you know what the Prophet ﷺ said?

Mansoor: What did he say, Baba?

Baba: He said, "Leave him, for Haya is a part of faith." This means that being modest and shy in a good way is something Allah loves.

Mansoor: But, Baba, when should we have Haya?

Baba: Haya should be in our hearts all the time. It helps us to:

Dress modestly, so we don't wear clothes that are too tight or too short.

Speak kindly, so we don't say rude words.

Lower our gaze when something inappropriate is in front of us.

Respect others and not make them feel uncomfortable.

Mansoor: Oh! So, if I laugh at someone or point at them, that is not having Haya?

Baba: Exactly! A person with Haya is careful about their actions and words. And do you know the best part?

Mansoor: What is it, Baba?

Baba: Haya brings us closer to Allah! When we have Haya, we protect our hearts from bad things.

Mansoor: I want to have Haya, Baba!

Baba: MashaAllah! That is the best choice, my son. Let's always remember that Haya is a part of our beautiful faith.

Mansoor: Yes, Baba! From now on, I will try my best to be modest and kind!

Baba: That's my boy! May Allah bless you with a heart full of Haya. Ameen!